# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
# LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:92
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2001
EXPORT-IMPORT PERFORMANCE
RENUKA CHOWDHURY;SAHIB SINGH VERMA

**Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:**

(a) the export-import targets fixed by the Government for the years 2000-2001 and 2001-2002, separately;

(b) the extent to which export-import targets have been achieved during the above period till date, year-wise;

(c) whether the exports which increased at the rate of 20.70% during April-January, 2000-2001 has come down to just half during February-March, 2001;

(d) if so, the average rate of growth registered during 2000-2001 indicating the reasons for the decline and the major areas of exports which have been affected adversely;

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to strengthen the exports in those areas which shows declining trend;

(f) whether due to huge import, balance of trade has been widening alarmingly during the last two years;

(g) if so, the facts thereof and the reasons therefor; and (h) the concrete steps taken/being taken to narrow down the gap between import and export growth rate?

## Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN)

(a)to (h) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (h) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 92 FOR ANSWE
27.7.2001 REGARDING EXPORT-IMPORT PERFORMANCE:

(a) & (b) : The export targets fixed for the year 2000-01 and 2001-02 and their achievements so far in US$ terms as per the DGCI&S provisional estimates are as under:-

| Year | Target growth | Achievement |
|---|---|---|
| 2000-01 | 18% | 19.83% |
| 2001-02 | 12% | |

No import targets are fixed by the Government.

(c),(d) & (e) : The export growth rate achieved during February-March 2001 has not come down to half of the export growth rate in April-January 2000-01. As per the provisional DGCI&S data, growth in exports during February- March 2001 was 16.37% compared to the growth rate of 20.7% during April-January 2000-2001. The overall growth rate for April-March 2000-01, in US $ terms is 19.83%

Export performance inter alia is influenced by international market conditions, export competitiveness of the domestic industry etc. Exports in last few months have been affected due to general slow down in world trade in major importing countries. Areas where sluggish export growth has been noticed during 2000-01 are gems and jewellery, sports goods, project goods, handicraft and carpets, etc.

A number of steps have been taken to further enhance the export growth which include reduction in transaction cost through decentralisation, setting up Special Economic Zones, simplification of procedures, extending the Export Promotion Capital Goods schemes to all sectors and all capital goods without any threshold limit on payment of 5% of duties and various other measures as enumerated in the Exim Policy. Steps have also been taken to promote exports through multilateral and bilateral initiatives, identification of thrust sectors and focus regions.

(f) to (h) : No Sir, balance of trade has not been widening. Instead it has been narrowing down. As per the provisional estimates trade deficit during 2000-01 decreased to US $ 5739 million from US $ 12904 million during 1999-2000.Trade deficit during April-May 2001-02 is less at US $ 1195 million as compared to US $ 1874 million during the same period last year. The value of imports during April-May 2001-02 in dollar terms has declined by 3.74% as compared to corresponding period of the previous year. The Government is constantly monitoring imports and promoting exports as mentioned above.